

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, below the title "TISSUE SPECIMEN ISOLATING AND DAMAGING DEVICE AND METHOD", please insert the following subtitle and paragraph to read as follows:

-RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a continuation application of co-pending application Serial No. 09/884,349, filed June 18, 2001. Application Serial No. 09/884,349 is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/238,965, filed January 27, 1999 and a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/159,467, filed September 23, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,261,241, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/057,303, filed April 8, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,331,166. Application Serial No. 09/884,349 is also a continuation-in-part of prior application Serial No. 09/146,185, filed September 1, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 09/057,303, filed April 8, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,331,166. Application Serial No. 09/884,349 is also a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/208,535, filed December 9, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 09/057,303, filed April 8, 1998. All of the above applications are incorporated herein in their entirety.--

Please insert the following paragraph on page 5, beginning at line 9:

Figures 9 and 10 show tissue specimen encapsulation devices which may be used in conjunction with the invention.

Please replace the third paragraph on page 6, line 17 with the following paragraph:

Embodiments of the invention may comprise other tissue specimen isolating tools with cutting members, such as is disclosed in commonly assigned U.S. Patent Applications to Burbank et al. entitled "Breast Biopsy System and Method," U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/057,303 and "Tissue Specimen Encapsulation Device and Method Thereof," U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/208,535, both of which are herein incorporated by reference in their entireties. Embodiments of the invention may only partially sever the tissue specimen from the surrounding tissue.

Please replace the third paragraph on page 10 (beginning at line 17) with the following paragraph:

Referring now to Figure 6, a tissue specimen isolating and damaging device 220 has a morcellator 222 at an operational portion 224. The morcellator 222 is used to morcellate a tissue specimen. The tissue specimen may be morcellated after encapsulation of the tissue specimen. Encapsulation of the tissue specimen is disclosed in the previously referenced and incorporated U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/208,535 entitled "Tissue Specimen Encapsulation Device and Method Thereof." The tissue specimen may be encapsulated with non-biodegradable or biodegradable material. Note there is not a piercing tool on this embodiment of the invention. Other morcellating devices may have a piercing tool. Also note that the cutting wire is in a retracted position and not visible.

Please insert the following paragraph on page 11 beginning at line 27:

Encapsulation of the tissue specimen may be accomplished by use of a tissue specimen encapsulation device as shown in Figure 9. The figure depicts a tissue specimen encapsulation device 310 which is comprised of a wand assembly 312, a

sheath 314, and a guide assembly 316. The wand assembly 312 defines an axis 318, and axial direction 320, and a plurality of radial directions 322. The wand assembly 312 also has a proximal end 324, shown to the left in Figure 9, and a distal end 326, shown to the right in Figure 9. A midsection 328 extends between the ends 324 and 326. The proximal end 324 is the end that is held by a user of the device 310. The proximal end 324 may be functionally connected to an actuator system, such as a control box or the equivalent, that manipulates the device 310 per the directions of the user (not shown). The distal end 326 is inserted into a target body (not shown) and proximate to a tissue specimen to be encapsulated by the device. The wand assembly 312 may be rigid or flexible, and may be articulatable so that it may be steered. The wand assembly 312 comprises a shaft core 329, shaft 330, a sheath sleeve 332 and an outer sleeve 334. The shaft core 329, shaft 330 and sleeves 332 and 334 are co-axially aligned and nested such that the shaft core 329 is inside the shaft 330 that is inside the sheath sleeve 332 that is inside the outer sleeve 334. The shaft core 329 and the shaft 330 extend proximally and distally beyond the sleeves 332 and 334 with the shaft core extending proximally beyond the shaft. The sheath sleeve 332 extends proximally beyond the outer sleeve 334 but the outer sleeve 334 extends distally beyond the sheath sleeve 332. In the device as shown, the distal end 326 of the device has a tip 338 with a radio frequency ("RF") powered member 340 extending diametrically across the tip. The RF powered member 340 may be energized such that the device moves through tissue via ablation or electrosurgical incision, thus enabling the device to be inserted into the target body containing a tissue specimen to be encapsulated. The device also may enter the biological target via other means, such as lasers or other

focussed light techniques, high pressure water, cutting with a sharp implement, cryogenic techniques, etc. In addition, the device may not have a component analogous to the RF powered member 340 but the distal end 326 may be inserted into the target body through a pre-existing passage (not shown). The device also has a sheath deployment rod deployment end 342 extending from the proximal end 324 of the wand assembly 312. The sheath deployment member deployment end 342 is pulled proximally in the axial direction 320 to deploy the sheath 314 about a tissue specimen. In Figure 10, the sheath deployment members 448 are shown deployed about the tissue specimen 492. At the axial center of the wand 412 is the sheath deployment member deployment rod 456. The sheath deployment member deployment rod 456 extends distally through the sheath deployment member cap 454 and terminates at the stop 488. The stop 488 is located distally and adjacent to the cap top 476. The sheath deployment member cap 454 is located at the distal end 426 of the wand assembly 412 with the axial extensions 478 extending proximally. The axial extensions 478 are disposed against the interior surface of the shaft core 429. The sheath deployment member deployment ends 474 are looped around the sheath deployment member ring 482, which is located proximal to the cap top 476. The sheath deployment members 448 extend from the sheath deployment member ring 482 and radially out of the distal end 426 of the shaft 430. As shown in Figure 10, the sheath deployment member deployment rod 456 is centrally located within the shaft core 429. The push rods 452 are disposed in grooves 458 in the outer surface of the shaft core 429. The shaft 430 surrounds the shaft core 429. The tissue specimen 492 is disposed about the shaft 430 toward the shaft's distal end 426. The outer sleeve 434 is shown surrounding the shaft

430 and is located proximally from the tissue specimen 492. The sheath 414 is disposed between the shaft 430 and the outer sleeve 434 with the second portion 446 distally extending from under the outer sleeve. The sheath deployment members 448 are deployed about the tissue specimen 492 but have not been released from the wand assembly 412. The end balls 470 of the sheath deployment members 448 are disposed in the ball-holders 466. The push rods 452 have been pushed to a position proximal of ball openings 402. The ball openings 402 are located at the proximal end of each sheath deployment member slot 472 and extend through the shaft 430. The ball openings 402 generally correspond with the proximal end of the tissue specimen 492. The sheath deployment members 448 extend from the end balls 470, through the ball openings 402, through ligatures 449 extending from the sheath second portion 446, and into the periphery margin 498 about the tissue specimen 492.